

## Message Text

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62

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

AID-20 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 IGA-02 RSR-01

/124 W

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R 291918Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1062

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 7525

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT

SUBJECT: POTENTIAL POLITICAL PRESSURE ON U.S. CORPORATIONS  
IN VENEZUELA

REF: CARACAS 6865 (LIMDIS)

1. I HAVE HAD A MEETING WITH A FEW OF MY PRINCIPAL  
CORPORATE DIRECTORS IN VENEZUELA OVER A POSSIBLE ATTEMPT  
BY THE COPEI PARTY MANAGERS AT BLACKMAIL OF OUR CORPORATIONS  
EITHER TO SECURE FUNDS FOR THEIR OWN CAMPAIGN EFFORT OR TO DENY  
FUNDS TO THE OPPOSITION ACCION DEMOCRATICA.

2. I AM RELIEVED TO REPORT THAT THUS FAR (SIC) NO SUCH  
PRESSURE HAS MATERIALIZED. WE HAD ANTICIPATED THAT POSSIBLY  
MENE GRANDE WOULD BE THREATENED WITH A REQUEST FOR CONTRIBUTIONS;  
BUT THE PRESIDENT OF CREOLE AS WELL AS THE PRESIDENT OF MENE  
GRANDE AND THE ACTING PRESIDENT OF MOBIL HAVE INFORMED ME  
THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO REPEAT NO REQUEST FOR CONTRIBUTIONS.

3. NONE--REPEAT NONE--OF THE MAJOR U.S. OIL COMPANIES  
TO MY KNOWLEDGE HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO PARTY FUNDS. UPON  
THIS BASIC PRINCIPLE THEY ARE RESOLVED TO STAND FIRM AND THIS  
EMBASSY WILL MAKE IT KNOWN IN GOVERNMENTAL CIRCLES THAT WE FIRMLY  
SUPPORT THE PRINCIPLE.

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4. APPARENTLY THE ONLY U.S. EXTRACTIVE COMPANY UPON WHOM A BITE WAS TENTATIVELY PUT WAS ORINOCO MINING BY AN INTERMEDIARY OF THE COPEI PARTY WHO ALLEGED THAT CREOLE PETROLEUM HAD PROMISED 100 SOUND TRUCKS (AT THE COST OF 15,000 BS EACH) FOR THE ADECO PARTY; WITH THE THREAT THAT THE STEEL INDUSTRY SHOULD COME UP WITH AT LEAST 20 SIMILAR TRUCKS. TO THIS OUTRAGEOUS REQUEST PRESIDENT COHLMAYER OF ORINOCO MINING WILL RETURN A DECISIVE NEGATIVE.

5. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH I THOUGHT LAST WEEK THAT WE WERE CONFRONTING A SITUATION OF "CHANTAGE", I FEEL NOW THAT PROBABLY THE POLITICAL PLOY AT THE MOMENT IS FOR MINISTER OF MINES AND HYDROCARBONS PEREZ LA SALVIA TO SOUND OFF IN THE PRESS BUT THAT, AS I PREDICTED IN CARACAS 6865, CALDERA, CALVANI AND OBERTO ARE TOO SAGE TO UPSET THE BUDGET AND THEIR RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES BY DRAMATIC MOVES AT THIS PARTICULAR TIME. THIS, HOWEVER, WOULD NOT PRECLUDE AN ACT OF DESPERATION IN NOVEMBER IF THE COPEYANOS FELT THEMSELVES TRULY DESPERATE.

MCCLINTOCK

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NNN

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